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## Russian Federation

### Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

## Ban Lifted on Pedigree Cattle From Germany and France

### 2006

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**Report Highlights:**

Russia reopened its market to German and French pedigree cattle on February 1 following a five-year ban instilled after bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) outbreaks were reported in Europe. As part of President Putin's Agricultural National Priority Project, the Ministry of Agriculture plans to import 100,000 head of pedigree cattle to develop Russia's ailing domestic livestock sector.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Moscow [RS1]  
[RS]

## Summary

The Ministry of Agriculture's press service announced that Russia lifted its ban on German and French pedigree cattle on February 1, 2006. The ban had been in place for five years after outbreaks of bovine encephalopathy (BSE) outbreaks were reported in Europe. Minister of Agriculture Aleksey Gordeyev stated that the ban will be lifted step by step starting with Bavaria and then on to other areas of Germany and France. Additional measures have been established to protect the Russian territory from BSE such as all imported cattle must be less than 30 months of age. Ministry of Agriculture officials have privately stated that the lifting of the ban is the result of the Agricultural National Priority Project announced in September 2005 by President Putin. The project aims, among other things, to increase domestic production of livestock by importing 100,000 head of genetically superior livestock from abroad in 2006-07.

### Unofficial Embassy Translation of Ministry of Agriculture Press Service Announcement

[www.mcx.ru](http://www.mcx.ru)

Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation  
Information from the Russian Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service  
Published: 02.01.2006

Taking into consideration that at present time the requirements of the OIE on controlling BSE are being fulfilled in France and Germany and after receiving assurances from the veterinary services that every possible measure is being taken against the spread of BSE, Russia will permit entry of pedigree cattle to the Russian Federation from the areas listed below:

In France -- Ain, Aisne, Allier, Alpes de Haute Provence, Alpes Maritimes, Ariège, Aube, Aude, Aveyron, Bas-Rhin, Bouches du Rhône, Calvados, Cantal, Charente, Charente-Maritime, Cher, Corrèze, Corse du Sud, Côtes d'Or, Dordogne, Doubs, Drôme, Essonne, Eure, Eure-et-Loir, Finistère, Gard, Gers, Gironde, Guadeloupe, Guyane, Haut Rhin, Haute Garonne, Haute-Loire, Hautes Alpes, Haute-Saône, Hautes-Pyrénées, Hauts de Seine, Hérault, Indre, Isère, Jura, Landes, Loire, Loire-Atlantique, Loiret, Loir-et-Cher, Lot, Lot-et-Garonne, Lozère, Marne, Martinique, Meurthe-et-Moselle, Meuse, Moselle, Nièvre, Nord, Pyrénées-Orientales, Réunion, Rhône, Saône et Loire, Savoie, Seine Maritime, Seine Saint Denis, Seine-et-Marne, Tarn, Tarn et Garonne, Territoire de Belfort, Val de Marne, Val d'Oise, Var, Vaucluse, Vendée, Yonne, Yvelines.

In Germany -- Saarland, Saxony Anhalt, Thuringia, Lower Saxony, Bavaria, North Rhine-Westphalia.

In addition to the above mentioned, the federal veterinary services of France and Germany must guarantee that the animals were not born or were not kept:

In France -- Ardèche, Ardennes, Côtes d'Armor, Creuse, Deux-Sèvres, Haute-Marne, Haute-Savoie, Haute-Vienne, Ille et Vilaine, Indre-et-Loire, Maine-et-Loire, Manche, Mayenne, Morbi-han, Oise, Orne, Pas-de-Calais, Puy-de-Dôme, Pyrénées-Atlantiques, Sarthe, Somme, Vienne, Vosges.

In Germany -- Mecklenburg, Western Pomerrania, Brandenburg, Rhinekannd-Palantinate, Schleswig-Holstein, Saxony Hesse, Baden Wurttemberg.

Importing pedigree cattle from these countries will be allowed only when guarantees exist that there are no cases of BSE in the territory from which the cattle are being imported into the Russian Federation. In doing so the following additional measures of safety with respect to the BSE in cattle should be implemented:

- Imported cattle shall be identified and registered by Russian veterinary officials;
- In case imported animals are to be relocated, the local Russian veterinary service from where the animals are leaving, shall notify the local Russian veterinary service where the animals are entering, as well as the Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (VPSS), no later than 7 days before the animals are expected to be reallocated. A copy of the letter signed by the local Russian veterinary service where the animals are entering shall be attached containing indications with respect to the fact that this veterinary service has been acquainted with additional measures of safety, which relate to these animals and has obligations to implement them;
- Slaughtering of imported animals shall be carried out only at meat processing plants (slaughterhouses) certified for that purpose at the end of the shift and must be separated from the rest of the animals. Animals which are sent to be slaughtered and are believed to be more than 30 months of age will be subject to a 100 percent anti-mortem clinical examination aimed at identifying characteristics specific to BSE, as well as to post-mortem examination of the samples taken from the brain from every slaughtered animal in the veterinary laboratory, which is certified to conduct tests for BSE. In the process of slaughtering and primary carcass cutting, all requirements of the OIE must be observed with respect to removing the specific risk materials (brain and spinal cord, visible lymphatic glands, tubular bones, vertebral column, eyes, distal ileum). The carcasses received for slaughtering of imported cattle believed to be 30 months of age or older shall be stored in a separate refrigeration chamber until tests return negative for BSE. Specific risk materials will be disposed of in accordance with established procedures. If the results of any BSE test are positive, VPSS will be immediately notified and the carcasses received from all infected animals that were stored in a separate chamber will be disposed of in accordance with the established procedures.
- The animals' owner will cover payment for the costs incurred in connection with the additional measures of safety and testing for BSE.

In the request to import live pedigree bovine, the local Russian administration and veterinary service will confirm their obligations to fulfill the above-mentioned conditions in full volume.

The offspring of the pedigree cattle imported from France and Germany as well as the genetic material retrieved from bulls can be used on the entire territory of the Russian Federation without limitations connected with BSE under the condition that every head of imported cattle is identified with tags of the established order.

**Source:** Ministry of Agriculture Press Service